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Docket No. F-8564

Scr. No. 10/522,379

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the indicated paragraphs of the specification in accordance with the amendments indicated below.

Pages 12-13: Please delete the paragraph, bridging pages 12 and 13, starting with "Enlarged cross section showing" and ending with "respectively."

Page 13: Please delete the first full paragraph, beginning "Also grooves 30e are formed . . ."

Page 13: Please insert the following new paragraphs before the first full paragraph on page 13, beginning "Also grooves 30e are formed . . .":

An enlarged cross section showing a principal portion of heating plates 30 is shown in Fig. 8, comprising the first heating plate 30a, the second heating plate 30b, the third heating plate 30c and the fourth heating plate 30d, arranged sequentially side by side. Advantageously, the first heating plate 30a, the second heating plate 30b, the third heating plate 30c and the fourth heating plate 30d, are sequentially arranged and aligned, on opposed sides thereof, advantageously

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generally along common parallel planes, as depicted in Fig. 8. Grooves (concavities) 30e, for example of angular configuration as shown in Fig. 8, formed in each of remaining sides which oppose an adjacent one of the heating plates 30a, 30b, 30c, 30d, define spaces 30f between each adjacent pair of the heating plates 30a, 30b, 30c, 30d, thereby creating an enlarged gap between adjacent ones of the heating plates 30a, 30b, 30c, 30d.

In the structural example shown in Fig. 8 satisfying the above conditions, each of the heating plates 30a, 30b, 30c, 30d assumes a cross sectional shape obtained by modification of a generally rhomboid (rhombus) shape, specifically by augmentation of at least one corner region. First heating plate 30a is defined, shape-wise in cross section, by an outer perimeter formed by a generally rhomboid (rhombus) cross sectional shape which is modified by the addition of a generally triangular portion bounded by a linear extension of a side of the cross sectional shape adjacent an acute angular corner thereof proximate to the second heating plate 30b, extended in a direction of the second heating plate 30b, and a line segment extending from a terminal end of the linear extension which meets the remaining side adjacent to said acute angular corner. As such, the first heating plate has a general cross sectional shape of a rhomboid (rhombus) with the addition of a protruding triangular portion at an acute angle corner facing the second heating plate.

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Each of the second and third heating plates 30b, 30c is defined, shape-wise in cross section, by an outer perimeter formed by a generally rhomboid (rhombus) cross sectional shape modified by linear extensions of two opposed sides of the cross sectional shape adjacent both acute angle corners thereof in a direction of the two adjacent heating plates 30a, 30c and 30b, 30d, respectively, and corresponding line segments extending from a terminal end of each of the linear extensions which intersect the remaining sides adjacent to respective ones of the acute angle corners.

Lastly, the fourth heating plate 30d is defined, shape-wise in cross section, in a manner analogous with the first heating plate 30a, described above. In this case, however, the triangular corner addition is directed towards the third heating plate 30c as a linear extension of a side of the cross sectional shape adjacent an acute angular corner thereof (opposite to the side of the first heating plate 30a which is extended) proximate to the third heating plate 30c in a direction of the second heating plate 30c, and a line segment extending from a terminal end of the linear extension which intersects the remaining side adjacent to said acute angular corner.